

LIFE & TIMES

C SECTION

On Post

Offshore Fishing

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Infantry Division unit financial advisor Staff Sgt. Mike Lyons, is offering offshore fishing trips for interested Soldiers on weekends.

Great-tasting King Mackerel are in season. Bait and fuel are provided for a small fee.

For more information, contact Lyons at 767-1806.

Volunteers needed

The ACS volunteer coordinator and the installation volunteer coordinator have information about a wide variety of volunteer opportunities in the ACS center and other agencies at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

Volunteer orientation at Hunter ACS is the first Thursday of every month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers are always welcome and much-needed at ACS. For more information, call 352-6816.

Brown Bag Lunch

The American Red Cross is hosting weekly Brown Bag Lunches at their office in Building 623, every Monday from 12 a.m. to 1 p.m.. The lunches provide military families with opportunities to network with other families and the Red Cross. No RSVP necessary, just show up with your lunch and get ready to socialize. For more information, call 767-2197

American Red Cross & Spencers

Families who have had children since being deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom, or have had them since their return, are eligible to receive a free layette offered by Spencer's Children's Clothing Company, Inc. A \$70 retail value, the gift set is a great chance to add to a family's baby supplies. Children must be under 18 months of age.

For specific guidelines and applications, contact the American Red Cross office at 767-2197.

Off Post

MILES Program

Don't buy a vehicle until you are armed with knowledge. This program is designed exclusively for active duty servicemembers who cannot obtain bank or credit financing when purchasing a vehicle.

For information, visit or qualify online at usmiles.com or call the Military Installment Loan and Education Services Assistance Center toll free at (866)-466-4537.

To publish a brief in The Frontline, call 767-3440 or fax us at 767-4951. Deadline for briefs is Friday at noon.



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Jason Clayton (center), a high school student who attended the AFAP youth forum Saturday, expresses his opinion that the hospital is too backed up, making it difficult to get appointments. The forum brought together nine teenagers to discuss areas of improvement on post.

Teens speak out at youth forum

Stewart high school students brainstorm together about making the post a better place

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Staff Writer

The Army Family Action Plan held its yearly youth forum Saturday to give teens of Fort Stewart an opportunity to voice their views and ideas about how to improve the post.

Led by Natalie Hallums and Vickie Wiginton, Army Community Service, the forum brought together nine teenagers with visions of how to make Stewart a better place to live, both for themselves and for all residents.

Normally, Wiginton said, teens bring up issues such as the need for more youth activities and transportation to those activities, school concerns like the transfer of credits from one state to another, or questions having to do with their families' medical concerns.

Once the issues have been decided upon and raised, they are briefed to Maj. Gen. William G. Webster, 3rd Infantry Division commander, she said. He then takes action on those concerns that can be acted upon based on funds and means available.

"These forums are important

because they provide an opportunity to put your concerns in, and those concerns are looked upon by the chain of command," Wiginton said.

Ideas from last year's forum inspired the building of the new Youth Activities Center. They also caused ACS to consider constructing a skateboard park, which is being planned now, she said.

"It gives you a chance to learn a little about how the system works," said forum attendee Debra Vukovich, 16. "It's a way to get our voices heard."

Desmond Johnson, 15, said he likes playing basketball, football, and soccer.

"I'm going to ask about getting more sports activities," he said. "What they decide to do about what we say depends on how much they want it."

David Smith, Stewart school liaison officer, said he had high expectations for the forum.

"The youth are insightful. They will ask questions that revolve around their quality of life, as well as their families' and communities'. They discuss areas they think they can have input," he

said.

The forum started out with an introduction consisting of reminding the students of the three "group norms" for the day.

The first was to be respectful of others' ideas and opinions, since several different viewpoints were going to be discussed. The second was to think across the board and brainstorm improvements that help everyone. And third, simply have fun.

The group spent the first hour brainstorming ideas together, while one of the attendees, Heather Lysale, recorded each one on a large sheet of paper at the front of the room.

Issues that were raised by the teens included problems varied from concerns about improving the service given at Winn Army Community Hospital to building an internet café.

The hospital's problems with backed-up appointments was an issue mentioned by Jason Clayton, 17.

He said he had heard a lot of people complain about not being able to get appointments lately.

Tiffany LeJeune said she felt improvements were needed at



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Tiffany LeJeune makes a point about the need for improved and covered school bus stops, school bus stops, some of which are nothing but an uncovered slab of cement on the ground. She also brought up the point that certain parts of Sunbury Rd. have potholes and need repairs.

See TEENS, Page 3C

Glad to give...



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Col. John M. Kidd, garrison commander, accepts a check for \$1,000 on behalf of the Fort Stewart Fallen Soldiers Fund from National Quartermaster Charles Rogers (center) and Treasurer Bill Davidson (left) of the Scottish-American Military Society. SAMS held a golf tournament to raise the funds for FSF, an organization to which they have been planning on donating for more than a year.

For love of animals

Student learns more about dream job at forum

Jennifer Wingfield

Managing Editor

Ever since he was in elementary school, 17-year-old Jason Clayton has wanted to be a veterinarian. During the summer, he was able to step a bit closer to his dream vocation.

The National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine held July 18 through 24 in Atlanta this summer was offered to over 350 outstanding high school juniors and seniors from across the United States. Besides paying the \$2,000 participation fee, students had to demonstrate academic achievement and an interest in a career related to science and health. Clayton was amongst the group.

Participants in the forum lived on the campus of Emory University in Atlanta. There was never any typical day, said Clayton.

"Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, we went outside of the Emory campus. At the trip to the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, we were able to go into a lab with human cadavers. I was able to pick up a human brain, lift up a ribcage, and see different organs," he said.

There were other students there that had an interest in medicine but sometimes he would be the lone veterinarian in a group.

"I especially enjoyed the problem-based learning approach," Clayton said. "This form of teaching bought the whole group together. We were able to research and learn quite a bit."

According to Donna Snyder, forum executive director, The National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine.

See ANIMALS, Page 3C

Biologists check up on Stewart's indigos

Pfc. Ben Brody

Associate Editor

Deep in the impenetrable forests of Fort Stewart, with sweat pouring off his brow, a doctor prepares his patient for emergency surgery. It's not a training accident, and few people on post have any idea why a team of scientists would be hunched over this patient, administering anesthesia.

The patient is an eastern indigo snake, a threatened species which makes its home in the gopher tortoise burrows common to the sand hill areas of Stewart.

The surgeon is Dr. Terry Norton, a wildlife veterinarian from the Wildlife Conservation Society of St. Catherine's Island, who conducts health assessments of Stewart's indigos. He conducted minor surgery July 20 on Little Brother, a large male indigo whose internal radio transmitter antenna had started to poke through his scales.

North America's largest snake is slithering about Stewart carrying radio transmitters because University of Georgia doctoral student Natalie Hyslop is conducting a study of their behavior and habitat use which will aid in conservation management for the dwindling species.

"The big threats facing indigos are habitat loss and fatal encounters with people or vehicles," Hyslop said. "Fort Stewart has large areas where that's not really a factor, so they've been pretty successful here and we're able to observe their behavior and movements in a more natural state."

In mud-spattered pants, holding a large wire antenna and listening for beeps, Hyslop stalks areas frequented by the study animals to record information about their movements, usually without actually touching them. About every six months, however, she and Norton set out to conduct comprehensive health surveys of the snakes. The survey includes extensive blood testing, checking for parasites and mites, measuring and weighing them and ensuring the transmitter is not harming them.

"It's important to collect this baseline information about indigos so we know what 'normal' is, and can diagnose abnormalities more easily and set protocols for future studies," Norton said. "So far we've seen elevated mercury levels in Stewart's indigos, which is not surprising. Because they're top predators, they accumulate toxins quickly from down the food chain."

After each checkup, conducted behind a well-used Jeep, Hyslop brought each indigo back to the spot where she captured it, and watched the inky shape disappear into the underbrush.

The eastern indigo can reach lengths of over eight feet, and is a distinctive iridescent blue-black on the back and belly, and sometimes a reddish-orange patch on the sides of the head. Indigos are non-venomous and generally docile with people, though they frequently eat rattlesnakes and other poisonous snakes. They can live over 20 years in the wild.

Hyslop's study has suggested that indigos have even larger home ranges than previously thought, often over 800 acres, and that they return to their winter dens throughout the year. Indigo snakes spend much of the winter deep in tortoise burrow dens, which can be 10 feet deep and 25 feet long.

Because of their relatively predictable locations during the winter months, Hyslop captures the snakes then and assists Norton implanting the transmitters. It is a 10 to 14 day process at Norton's lab before the indigo is ready for re-release at the site of its capture.

The future looks dim for the indigo snake if human development continues at its current pace, according to Norton. Studies have suggested that in populated areas, most indigo deaths are caused by vehicles.

"They are such magnificent creatures," Hyslop said as she watched White, a seven foot male, slide through charred timber in a recently burned area on Stewart. "It would be devastating to lose this important piece of the longleaf pine ecosystem."



Photos by Pfc. Ben Brody

UGA doctoral student Natalie Hyslop measures an eastern indigo snake on Stewart July 20. She is conducting an intensive study on the threatened species.



DPW herpetologist Dirk Stevenson photographs Little Brother, a male indigo, as Hyslop, Tufts veterinary student Rhea Hanselmann and Norton prepare him for minor surgery.



A large male indigo flares its throat in a threat display, moments before striking at the author. Despite their status as a top predator, indigos are generally docile around people — which has fueled the snake's popularity in the illegal wildlife pet trade.



Hyslop homes in on an indigo's radio signal.



Dr. Terry Norton, a wildlife veterinarian from the Wildlife Conservation Society, draws blood from an eastern indigo.



White, a male indigo snake, slithers away through a recently burned area after his health assessment. Prescribed burns enhance the longleaf pine ecosystem, the indigo's habitat.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

United in religion can accomplish much

Chaplain (Maj.) Pete Brzezinski
2BDE UA

As we face Labor Day weekend many of us are looking forward to some time off, a cook out and many other things as we celebrate the Labor Day weekend. In many places Labor Day marks the end of summer and the beginning of school and all the activities that go with it. It's a little hard to believe the summer is over when especially here in the south it is still hot until November. One thing is for sure we all could use some time off to spend with family and friends relaxing with all that we do here on "The Marne Express"!

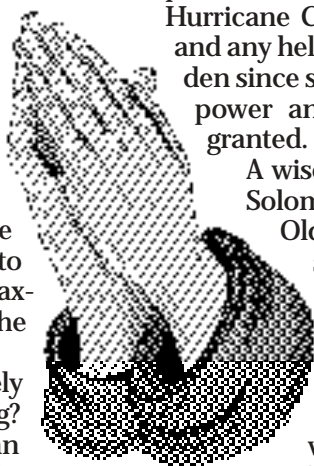
But have you considered lately that work is actually a blessing? Those that specialize in human behavior and relationships tell us that we all need to work, the right amount that is, to keep a balanced and less stressed lifestyle. We have all been there, in a job where we feel under the gun all the time or in a job where it is too slow for us, at the end of the day we felt the same, stressed and unhappy dreading going to work the next day!

We all know what it's like when we stay

positive and count our blessings and thank God that we have a job, our health, family, and friends. Work takes on another meaning when we choose to focus on what blessings we have and not on those things we are unhappy about. Just think how many people are out of work in Florida as a result of Hurricane Charley. They need our prayers and any help we can send to ease their burden since so many people are still with out power and other utilities we take for granted.

A wise man inspired by God, named Solomon, wrote about work in the Old Testament some three thousand years ago. He wrote; "There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labor, for to enjoy one's work this too is a gift from God". I believe it's a good idea to stop once in a while and consider how we see work. Do we see work as a burden or as a blessing? The choice is really ours. May God Bless you as you enjoy a break from work this Labor Day weekend.

Editor's Note: Last week's Chaplain's Corner was written by Chaplain (Capt.) Stan Jasiurkowski, not Chaplain (1st Lt.) Matthew Temple.



Pet of the Week

Darcey is a 2-year-old spayed female Pit Bull mix. She is extremely loving and well-behaved, and would make a wonderful pet for any family.

If you are interested in adopting a pet like Darcey for your home, call the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842. The clinic is located on W. Bultman Avenue.

Worship Opportunities

Fort Stewart

Catholic	Location	Time
Sunday Mass	Heritage	9 a.m.
Saturday Mass	Heritage	5 p.m.
Weekday Mass	Victory	11:45 a.m.
Protestant		
Sunday Protestant Worship	Marne	11 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Service	Victory	11 a.m.
Sunday Family Friendly	Vale	11 a.m.
Tuesday Healing Service	WACH	11:30 a.m.
Sunday School	Diamond Elementary	9:30 a.m.
American Samoan		
Sunday Worship	Vale	1 p.m.
Muslim		
Friday Jum'ah	Building 610	12:30 p.m.
Masjid (Daily)	Building 610	9 a.m.
Lutheran		
Sunday Worship	Marne	9 a.m.
Jewish		
Friday Services	Marne	6 p.m.

Hunter Army Airfield

Protestant		
Protestant Sunday School	Religious Education Center	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service	Chapel	11 a.m.
Catholic		
Sunday Mass	Chapel	9:30 a.m.
CCD	Religious Education Center	11 a.m.

Volunteer Spotlight



DANIEL PETERSON



Daniel Peterson, a Grafton, N.D., native, is a Red Cross volunteer at Winn Army Community Hospital. He volunteers in the Family Practice Clinic as a licensed nurse practitioner. Peterson said he volunteers to “keep his nursing skills sharp and up-to-date. One of Peterson’s favorite hobbies is watching basketball. If you would like more information about becoming an American Red Cross volunteer at Winn, call Heather Conkle at 767-2197 or send an email to redcross2@stewart.army.mil



WOODRUFF THEATER

August 26 - September 1

Friday, Saturday and Sunday

General admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

\$1 Showings Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Anchorman (PG-13)

Starring: Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate
Tonight at 7 p.m.

When feminism marches into the newsroom in the form of ambitious newswoman Veronica Corningstone, Ron, the top-rated anchorwoman in San Diego is willing to play along at first, but then turns into a battle between the two perfectly coiffed anchor-persons.

Catwoman (PG-13)

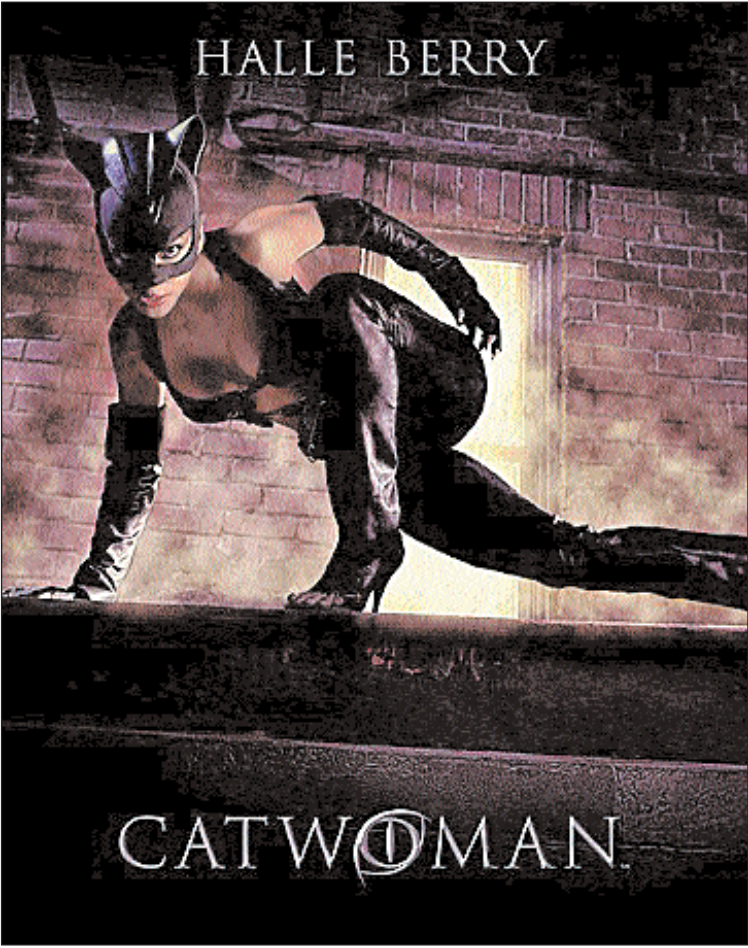
Starring: Halle Berry, Sharon Stone
Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

Patience Phillips seems destined to spend her life apologizing for taking up space. This comes to a screeching halt when Patience becomes a human guinea pig for the revolutionary anti-aging product Hadare. Patience then becomes a different person come nighttime, more accurately, a Catwoman elusive, untamed, powerful, stealthy and not necessarily prone to erring on the side of good.

A Cinderella Story (PG)

Starring: Hillary Duff, Jennifer Collidge
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Samantha lives at the beck and cal of her self-obsessed step-mother Fiona and her sinfully-wicked step sisters. She finds her social life wonderfully complicated when she meets her Prince Charming on the internet, who turns out to be Austin, her high school’s quarterback. Sam dodges Austin’s efforts to find his princess. Will Sam let fear hold her back or find the courage to claim what she’s always wanted? Her chance at “happily ever after” depends on it.



Birth Announcements

August 8

Jadon Tellis Burgess-Thomas, a boy, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Michael Thomas and Telphanie Burgess-Thomas.

August 9

Cristian Xavier Dennis, a boy, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Calvin Dennis and Staff Sgt. Christal Dennis.

Antonio Aprentice Bradley, a boy, 6 pounds, 10 ounces, born to Spc. Antonio Bradley and Spc. LaNorma Murdock.

August 11

Jeremy Caleb McNamara, a boy, 9 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Sgt. Richard McNamara and Rebekah Rosa McNamara.

August 12

Margaret Grace Frohnhoefer, a girl, 8 pounds,

born to Capt. Thomas Duffy Frohnhoefer and Audrey Lynn Frohnhoefer.

Mica Anthony Luttrull, a boy, 10 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Pfc. Chad Luttrull and Katherine Luttrull.

Klaryssa Mercedes Oxford, a girl, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Spc. Keith Oxford and Judi Oxford.

Angel Elijah Vidal, a boy, 6 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Spc. Carlos Vidal and Pfc. Amy Vidal.

Christopher Raynard Reed Jr., a boy, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Spc. Christopher Reed and Glenda Reed.

Aidon Michealangelo Diaz, a boy, 6 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Spc. George Diaz and Alisa Diaz.

August 13

Tamia Mariah Blakley, a girl, 6 pounds, 9

ounces, born to Cedric Blakley and Pfc. Latricia Maston.

Scarlett Dawn Sullivan, a girl, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Sgt. Sean Christopher Sullivan and Heidi Dawn Sullivan.

August 14

Jessica Charlotte Coval, a girl, 7 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Sgt. John C. Coval and Barbara A. Coval.

Wyatt James Coon, a boy, 9 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Spc. Alan Coon and Jessica Lynn Coon.

Arianna Rena Vann, a girl, 6 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Sgt. Aaron Kenard Vann and Sgt. Lawandca Monique Sutton.

August 15

Amelia Leigh DiFebo, a girl, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Spc. Dominic A. DiFebo and

Amber L. DiFebo.

Julie Samuel Sanchez, a boy, 6 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Staff Sgt. Julio Sanchez and Lillian Sanchez.

Kevin Jerone Hunter Jr., a boy, 4 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Pfc. Kevin Jerone Hunter and Tara Marie Hunter.

August 16

Dustin Duane Stevenson, II, a boy, 6 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Staff Sgt. Dustin D. Stevenson and Staff Sgt. Regina D. Stevenson.

August 17

Damien Terrance Williams, a boy, 8 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Pfc. Tishawn Williams and Tara Marie Williams.

Kamryn Dayshan Foster, a girl, 6 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Keric Darnell Foster and Spc. April Dayshan Foster.

